

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 MCT-01 EUR-12 ARA-06  
/069 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN:JR  
APPROVED BY P MR. HABIB (SUBSTANCE)  
AF - WESCHAUFLE  
S/S:SGOLDSMITH  
-----100432Z 097672 /75-62  
O 100414Z MAR 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 053093

FOR CHARGE FROM SCHAUFLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG

SUBJECT: BORDER ATTACK ON ZAIRE

FOLLOWING THOUGHTS SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT  
MOBUTU BY FASTEST POSSIBLE ROUTE BEFORE HE MAKES PUBLIC  
STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN THE SHABA:

-- (A) YOU SHOULD EXPRESS USG'S SYMPATHY AND CONCERN  
OVER REPEATED INCURSIONS INTO SHABA. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE  
NO RELATIONS OR INFLUENCE WITH ANGOLA SOME OF THE  
FOLLOWING THOUGHTS OCCUR TO US IN THIS SITUATION.

-- (B) WE UNDERSTAND IT IS PRESIDENT'S INTENTION  
TO MAKE SLASHING PUBLIC ATTACK ON SOVIETS AND CUBANS  
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FOR INSTIGATING AGGRESSION IN THE SHABA. WE ARE  
CONCERNED THAT THIS CONFRONTATIONAL APPROACH MAY MAKE  
IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR SOVIETS AND OTHER STATES TO USE  
THEIR INFLUENCE TO OBTAIN ANGOLAN WITHDRAWAL. WE WOULD  
SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT MOBUTU MIGHT FIRST RESORT TO  
QUIET DIPLOMACY, CALLING IN SOVIET AND CUBAN AMBASSADORS  
AND ASK ASSISTANCE OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN OBTAINING

WITHDRAWAL OF ANGOLAN FORCES AND RESOLUTION OF

ANGOLAN-ZAIRIAN DIFFERENCES. THIS WOULD NOT PRECLUDE  
SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC STATEMENT IF APPROPRIATE.

-- (C) TO BRING MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE INFLUENCE TO BEAR  
ON LUANDA REGIME, WE SUGGEST THAT MOBUTU ADDRESS URGENT  
MESSAGES TO SELECTED AFRICAN LEADERS, (E.G., NIGERIA AND  
TANZANIA), AND PERHAPS OTHER COUNTRIES WITH REPRESENTATION  
IN LUANDA, ASKING THEM TO APPROACH NETO AND URGE AN END  
TO THE INTRUSION AND MEDIATION OF THE CONFLICT. (TO OUR  
KNOWLEDGE, FOLLOWING COUNTRIES HAVE REPRESENTATION IN  
LUANDA: EGYPT, NIGERIA, TANZANIA, BELGIUM, FRANCE,  
PORTUGAL, ITALY, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, BRAZIL, YUGOSLAVIA,  
ROMANIA, PLUS MORE HOSTILE COMMUNIST STATES.)

-- (D) IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT NETO WILL DENY  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ATTACK ON ZAIRE BY "KATANGESE".  
UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, PRESIDENT MOBUTU COULD PROPOSE  
INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE FACTS IN THE  
CASE.

2. DO YOU HAVE ANY THOUGHTS ON ADVISEABILITY OF SENDING  
MILITARY OFFICER TO LUBUMBASHI, OR OTHER MEANS TO  
IMPROVE OUR COVERAGE OF MURKY MILITARY SITUATION,  
WITHOUT, HOWEVER, ENGAGING IN ANY PLANNING OR OTHER  
ACTIVITIES OR MOVING OUT OF LUBUMBASHI? THERE ARE OBVIOUS  
RISKS IN HAVING US MILITARY OFFICER APPEAR ON THE  
GROUND IN THE SHABA AT TIME WHEN NETO IS ACCUSING US OF  
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PLOTTING AGGRESSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS URGENT  
NEED FOR HARD, ON-THE-GROUND INFORMATION AND  
INTREPRETATION OF SITUATION.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GUIDANCE INSTRUCTIONS, INVASIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE053093  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TRBUCHANAN:JR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770081-1120  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3148636  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BORDER ATTACK ON ZAIRE FOLLOWING THOUGHTS SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU BY FASTEST POSSIBLE ROUTE BEFORE HE MAKES P  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CG, AO, CU, UR, (MOBUTU, SESE SEKO)  
**To:** KINSHASA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009